AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The nucleoside or nucleotide according to claim 1~~, A nucleoside or nucleotide having a 5-substituted-2-oxo(1H)-pyridin-3-yl group as a base, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of the following:

1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine;

2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group, or a derivative thereof;

3) biotin or a derivative thereof; [[and]]

4) a fluorescent molecule selected from fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine, and derivatives thereof; and

5) biotin, dichloroacetyl group, fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine, or derivatives thereof introduced via a linker selected from an aminoalkyl group, an aminoalkenyl group and an aminoalkynyl group.

3. (Currently Amended) The nucleoside or nucleotide according to claim [[1 or]] 2, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with 1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine, 2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group, or a derivative thereof, or 3) biotin or a derivative thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The nucleoside or nucleotide according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 2 or 3, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with an iodine or biotin derivative.

5. (Currently Amended) A nucleic acid incorporating ~~the nucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 4~~ a nucleoside or nucleotide having a 5-substituted-2-oxo(1H)-pyridin-3-yl group as a base, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of the following:

1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine;

2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group, or a derivative thereof;

3) biotin or a derivative thereof;

4) a fluorescent molecule selected from fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine, and derivatives thereof; and

5) biotin, dichloroacetyl group, fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine, or derivatives thereof introduced via a linker selected from an aminoalkyl group, an aminoalkenyl group and an aminoalkynyl group.

6. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, wherein the nucleotide ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 4~~ forms a base pair with a nucleotide having a 6-substituted 2-amino-purin-9-yl group as a base.

7. (Original) The nucleic acid according to claim 6, wherein the 6-substituted 2-amino-purin-9-yl group is a 2-amino-6-(2-thienyl)purin-9-yl group or a 2-amino-6-(dimethylamino)-purin-9-yl group.

8. (Currently Amended) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, which is [[used]] suitable for use as antisense DNA or RNA, a ribozyme or an aptamer.

9. (Original) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, which encodes all or part of a protein or peptide.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing a prepared nucleic acid ~~incorporating the nucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 4, which comprises~~ comprising:

effecting transcription, replication or reverse transcription by using, as a template, a template nucleic acid containing a nucleotide having a 6-substituted 2-amino-purin-9-yl group as a base~~, so that the nucleotide according to any one of claims 1 to 4 is incorporated at a site complementary to the nucleotide having a 6-substituted 2-amino-purin-9-yl group as a base~~ in the presence of the nucleotide according to claim 2 or 3 to incorporate said nucleotide as a base into said prepared nucleic acid at a site complementary to said 6-substituent 2-amino-purin-9-yl group in said template nucleic acid.

11. (New) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, wherein the nucleoside or nucleotide at the 5-position of the base is substituted with 1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine, 2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group, or a derivative thereof, or 3) biotin or a derivative thereof.

12. (New) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, wherein the nucleoside or nucleotide at the 5-position of the base is substituted with an iodine or biotin derivative.

13. (New) The nucleoside or nucleotide according to claim 2, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of:

1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine;

2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group;

3) biotin;

4) a fluorescent molecule selected from fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, and tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine; and

5) biotin, dichloroacetyl group, fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, or tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine introduced via a linker selected from an aminoalkyl group, an aminoalkenyl group and an aminoalkynyl group.

14. (New) The nucleic acid according to claim 5, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of:

1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine;

2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group;

3) biotin;

4) a fluorescent molecule selected from fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, and tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine; and

5) biotin, dichloroacetyl group, fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, or tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine introduced via a linker selected from an aminoalkyl group, an aminoalkenyl group and an aminoalkynyl group.

15. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the 5-position of the base is substituted with a substituent selected from the group consisting of:

1) a photoreactive group selected from iodine and bromine;

2) an alkenyl group, an alkynyl group or an amino group;

3) biotin;

4) a fluorescent molecule selected from fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, and tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine; and

5) biotin, dichloroacetyl group, fluorescein, 6-carboxyfluorescein, or tetramethyl-6-carboxyrhodamine introduced via a linker selected from an aminoalkyl group, an aminoalkenyl group and an aminoalkynyl group.